

THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF GODSTONE.

(Public Health Department)

---

ANNUAL REPORT.

1 9 5 4

COUNCIL OFFICES,  
OXFORD, SURREY.



STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health:

(also: Medical Officer of Health, Reigate M.B.  
and Divisional Medical Officer, Surrey C.C.)

THOMAS H. BINGHAM, M.D., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

ARTHUR H. SEWELL, Cert. R.S.I., Cert. Inspector  
of Meat and Other Foods, Cert. Sanitary Science.

Sanitary Inspector:

PETER F. WEST, Cert. R.S.I., Cert. Inspector  
of Meat and Other Foods.

Clerk:

ROY DUNNETT.

Rat Officer:

JOHN LUCK.

THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF GODSTONE.  
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR 1954.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Rural District of Godstone in the year 1954. The Report is drawn up generally in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, as indicated in Circular 42/51, and follows the same arrangement as earlier issues in the same series. For ease of reference, the required information is presented as far as possible in tabular form.

The population of the Godstone Rural District, including members of the Armed Forces stationed in the area, was estimated by the Registrar-General to be 34,070 at mid-year, 1954. This represents an estimated population increment of 240 in the preceding twelve months, of which 1 is attributable to natural increase, or excess of live births over deaths, and 239 to migration into the area. The population gains under both headings are very much smaller than usual. The marked decline in the gain by natural increase is largely explained by the recent alteration in the method adopted for the statistical treatment of transferable deaths: this had the effect of greatly increasing the number of deaths assigned to the area, so that it now closely approximates to the total number of live births. In 1953 the natural increase was a minus quantity, the deaths outnumbering the live births by 14. The Registrar-General's estimate is not greatly at variance with the population figure computed on information from other sources and, accordingly, the various statistical rates for the year, which are calculated on the estimate, fairly reflect the extent of sickness and mortality actually experienced in the year under review.

There was no major outbreak of serious infectious illness. The rate of prevalence of poliomyelitis was somewhat higher than usual,

but the disease was, fortunately, relatively mild in type and fairly localised in distribution. The most troublesome feature of this infection from the administrative point of view is the unavoidable delay in obtaining confirmation of the diagnosis of suspected cases, more particularly of those without paralytic symptoms, and the consequent difficulties in imposing or relaxing restrictions in relation to immediate contacts. Reference is also made to an outbreak of bacillary dysentery at Tatsfield, which had gained considerable headway before the infectious nature of the illness was recognised. This is not surprising, as the illness in most cases was of short duration and rarely so severe as to require medical attention. The search for convalescent cases and suspected carriers and the collection of specimens for laboratory examination entailed a very considerable amount of work, in which the medical practitioners and Health Visitors working in the district rendered all possible assistance. The incidence rates for the other infectious diseases and for all forms of tuberculosis were generally below the average for recent years. The exceptionally low prevalence of influenza and measles, and the absence of cases of diphtheria, enteric fever and cerebro-spinal meningitis are especially noteworthy.

Extracts from the vital statistics for the Rural District for 1954 are set out in Table II. The recorded birth rates of 13.64 per thousand of the population represents a considerable advance on the corresponding rate for 1953 and is only slightly below the average for the preceding five years. When adjusted to make approximate allowance for the way in which the age and sex constitution of the population of the Rural District differs from that of the country as a whole, the local rate is advanced to 14.7, as compared with 15.2 for England and Wales. The rise in the birth rate was accompanied by a sharp increase in mortality of new-born infants and, to a lesser extent, in the proportion registered as still-born.

The deaths assigned to the area include those of local residents who died elsewhere, but exclude those of temporary residents, which are transferred to the districts in which they previously resided. The total number of deaths so assigned was 464, of which 210 were of males



and 254 of females. The death rate calculated on this total is 13.61 per thousand of the estimated population, as compared with 13.56 in 1953 and an average annual rate of 11.2 for the preceding ten years. Reference has already been made to the assignment to the Rural District of certain institutional deaths which were formerly transferable to other districts; this had the effect of raising the local death rate for 1953 and subsequent years. The age and sex constitution of the population of the Rural District is not conducive to a low death rate; when adjusted in the prescribed manner to make allowance for this factor, the local rate is reduced to 11.9, which compares with 11.3 for the country as a whole.

The numbers of deaths assigned to specified causes are set out in Table III. Rather more than one-half of the total were attributed to diseases of the heart and circulation, including affections of the blood vessels of the brain, and were in most instances of the terminal or degenerative type occurring in association with senility. This proportion is not unduly high when considered in relation to the age group distribution of the population of the Rural District. The mortality ascribed to cancer and malignant diseases, although slightly less than in 1953, is much above the average for preceding years; the upward trend would appear from present information to be largely explained by the greater number of males dying from cancer of the lung.

Reference has already been made to the increase in the number of infants who died in their first year; of the 14 such deaths recorded, 10 were of babies who succumbed within a few hours or days of birth, in most instances because of prematurity or gross congenital malformation or abnormality. The infant mortality rate for the Godstone Rural District in 1954 was 30.10 per thousand live births, as compared with 25.5 for England and Wales. It is of interest to report that no mortality was attributed to acute infectious disease, with the exception of pneumonia, and that the death rate for non-tuberculous respiratory diseases was one of the lowest yet observed. The numbers of deaths from other defined and specified diseases are not above the average for the Rural District and do not indicate unusual or excessive mortality from any particular cause.

Attention might again be drawn to the public health and social problems connected with the domiciliary care of the chronic sick, aged and infirm. Several such cases were referred to the Public Health Department on the grounds that the persons concerned were living in grossly insanitary surroundings, were unable to give to themselves and were not receiving from others the care and attention they required, and that the conditions generally would warrant action for compulsory removal to a suitable institution. With the assistance and co-operation of various official and voluntary agencies it was possible in every case to effect such improvement in the sanitary circumstances and in the general standard of care that removal to a hospital or institution would not have been justified.

The general standard of health and of physical and mental well-being of the inhabitants of the district cannot be assessed entirely on statistical findings, which take little account of ill-health and disabilities of one kind or another that are not officially notifiable and not often fatal and not, therefore, reflected in the returns of deaths. A great deal of information concerning illness of this nature is obtained from the certificates given by medical practitioners in support of applications for Council housing accommodation. Further valuable information, more particularly concerning the infant and child population of the district, is derived from the results of medical examination of infants attending the Child Welfare Centres, the information gained by the Health Visitors in the course of their domiciliary visiting and the findings of routine and special medical examination of school children. The information obtained from all these sources does not disclose any evidence of deterioration from the standard attained in the past.

I gratefully acknowledge my indebtedness to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for the consideration they have shown to me throughout the year. My sincere thanks are due also to Mr.A.H.Sewell, Chief Sanitary Inspector, and to the medical practitioners in the area for their willing assistance and close co-operation in all matters of mutual concern.

I am, Mr.Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. H. BINGHAM.

Medical Officer of Health.

22nd September, 1955.

SECTION I  
STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area (Land and Inland Water) in acres	52,507
Population at Census, 1951	32,823
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population at Mid-year, 1954	34,070
Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1954, according to the Rate Books (Revised)	9,643
Rateable Value (1954)	£358,330
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£1,441

TABLE I

The area and population at the 1951 Census of the various Parishes comprising the Rural District, and the rateable value of each Parish at the end of 1954, are as follows:-

PARISHES	AREA IN ACRES	RATEABLE VALUE AT END OF 1954	CENSUS POPULATION OF PARISHES - 1951
Bletchingley	5,813	30,340	3,164
Burstow	4,750	25,808	2,961
Chelsham	2,703	12,014	1,390
Crowhurst	2,119	2,252	330
* Felbridge	2,080	15,490	--
Godstone	4,464	34,692	5,033
Horne	3,603	6,038	1,102
Limpsfield	4,673	52,610	3,499
Lingfield	9,239	60,462	5,951
Nutfield	3,390	25,903	2,043
Oxted	3,658	74,478	5,420
Tandridge	2,722	6,372	802
Tatsfield	1,304	8,670	1,009
Titsey	1,989	3,201	119
<u>TOTALS</u>	52,507	£358,330	32,823

\* Constituted as a separate Parish on 1st April, 1953.



TABLE II

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.Live Births:-

Legitimate	Males	222	Females	223	Total	445
Illegitimate	"	10	"	10	"	20

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population:- 13.6

Do. 1953 , 13.1

Do. for the five years 1949 to 1953 13.7

Still Births:-

Legitimate	Males	10	Females	1	Total	11
Illegitimate	"	2	"	0	"	2

Rate per 1,000 total births:- 27.2

Do. 1953 24.1

Deaths (Nett) :- Males 210 Females 254 Total 464

Do. 1953 " 234 " 225 " 459

Death Rate per 1,000 population:- 13.6

Do. 1953 13.5

Do. for the five years 1949 to 1953 11.3

Percentage of total deaths occurring in public institutions:- 57.7

Deaths of Infants under the age of one year:-

Legitimate	Males	10	Females	3	Total	13
Illegitimate	"	1	"	0	"	1

Death Rate of infants under one year:-

All infants per 1,000 live births 30.1

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 29.1

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births 50.0

Deaths from:-

Cancer	69
Measles	Nil
Whooping Cough	Nil
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil

TABLE III

## CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE GODSTONE RURAL DISTRICT DURING 1954.

	M.	F.	Total.
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	1	3
2. Tuberculosis, other forms	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	2	1	3
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	7	2	9
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	11	1	12
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	7	7
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	2	2
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	18	21	39
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	1	1
16. Diabetes	1	-	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	17	53	70
18. Coronary disease, angina	31	19	50
19. Hypertension with heart disease	3	6	9
20. Other heart disease	32	56	88
21. Other circulatory disease	12	16	28
22. Influenza	-	-	-
23. Pneumonia	24	14	38
24. Bronchitis	5	2	7
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	2	4	6
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	3	6
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	3	-	3
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-	2
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	4	2	6
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	18	30	48
33. Motor vehicle accidents	4	-	4
34. All other accidents	6	10	16
35. Suicide	3	2	5
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
Totals	210	254	464

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND

OTHER DISEASES.

Provision of Isolation Hospital Accommodation.

The provision of hospital accommodation for the isolation and treatment of cases of infectious disease is the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board. Patients from the Rural District are admitted to the isolation hospital at Bletchingley, if the required accommodation and facilities are available; otherwise, they are sent to isolation hospitals in other parts of the Hospital Region. The infectious diseases hospital at Westcott, which had been used to a limited extent in the past for the reception of cases of scarlet fever from the Rural District, was closed on 31st October, 1954.

Uncomplicated cases of the commoner infections, such as measles, mumps and whooping cough, are not usually accepted, unless recommended by the Medical Officer of Health on the grounds that the patient cannot be satisfactorily isolated and treated at home; several such cases were admitted to hospital during the year.

There was no complaint of difficulty or delay in securing the admission of infectious patients to hospital; neither was there complaint of dissatisfaction with the arrangements for ambulance transport or with the quality of the hospital services given. It still occasionally happens that certain isolation hospital authorities fail to notify the Medical Officer of Health as a matter of course of the admission and discharge of patients from his area, and of the ultimate diagnosis made in cases admitted to hospital on suspicion. This has necessitated repeated telephone enquiries to the hospitals concerned and has tended to delay the application of appropriate precautionary measures in relation to immediate contacts. The position in this respect is gradually improving as a result of informal approach to the responsible officers of the hospitals concerned.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

Table IV shows the numbers of the various notifiable infectious diseases, other than tuberculosis, recorded in the area during the calendar year, classified according to the age of the patient, together with the numbers of cases removed to hospital and the total deaths from each disease.

TABLE IV.  
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)  
NOTIFIED IN THE GODSTONE RURAL DISTRICT  
DURING THE YEAR 1954.

	CASES NOTIFIED IN AGE PERIODS												Totals	Total cases re- moved to hospital	Total Deaths.
	Under 1 Year	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over			
Scarlet Fever	-	3	1	-	2	14	8	-	2	-	-	-	30	21	-
Whooping Cough	5	4	10	9	10	42	2	3	3	3	-	-	91	5	-
Measles	-	-	-	2	1	17	-	1	-	-	-	-	21	-	-
Pneumonia	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	3	1	4	13	5	38*
Dysentery	1	-	-	1	2	9	3	-	-	1	-	-	17	1	-
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3	2	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Acute Polio- myelitis															
(a) Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	1	1	-	-	5	4	-
(b) Non- Paralytic	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	-
Totals	6	8	12	12	15	87	13	6	11	8	4	4	186	40	38
Totals 1953	15	29	48	62	74	377	38	7	10	10	10	10	690	42	32

\*  
All Forms.



The reported cases of poliomyelitis include seven which occurred in the month of August. Two were in the Oxted district and had no known contact with a recognised case, nor did they at any stage of their illness suffer from paralysis; five were in Godstone, three being members of the same household who took ill almost simultaneously and who, no doubt, were infected from the same source, the remaining two being sporadic cases apparently unconnected with each other or with any known case of the disease. Four of the patients in this group had paralysis in varying degree, but all recovered without serious residual disability. A further case, also paralytic in type, was reported from Godstone in December. During the season of expected prevalence of poliomyelitis, four suspected cases were removed to hospital for observation, and although presumably suffering from some type of virus infection, there was no clinical or laboratory confirmation that the particular virus concerned in these cases was that of poliomyelitis.

Fifteen of the notifications of dysentery related to an outbreak of the disease in the Tatsfield area in the months of May and June. It was reported that many of the children in that area and in adjoining districts had been absent from school on account of fairly severe diarrhoea; laboratory specimens from some of the persons affected gave positive results for bacillary dysentery. The medical practitioners in the area were made aware of the position and readily agreed to report any suspected cases that might come to their notice and to accept the assistance of the Health Visitors in the following-up of contacts, including the collection of specimens for bacteriological examination. In the routine investigation of the outbreak it soon became apparent that the infection was much more widespread than was at first supposed and that it had been present for some time before its nature was recognised. This greatly increased the difficulties and the time involved in tracing convalescent cases, contacts and possible carriers, all of whom were kept under close surveillance until shown by laboratory findings to be free from infection. There was no evidence to suggest that the infecting organism had been introduced or spread through the medium of contaminated food or water supplies, school meals, the arrangements for sewage disposal in the area

or other communal services. Two further cases of bacillary dysentery were reported in November; these had no connection with the Tatsfield outbreak, but had contracted the infection abroad.

There was one notification of food poisoning; the patient, a six-year-old boy, suffered from relatively severe and persistent enteritis, which was subsequently found to be due to organisms of the food poisoning group. There was reason to believe that the infection in this case had been derived from ducks' excreta. All necessary and appropriate precautions were taken to prevent the occurrence of further cases.

Malaria is listed as a notifiable disease. In the one case reported during the year it was clearly established that the patient had contracted the affection abroad and developed symptoms of the disease shortly after his arrival in this country.

The incidence and mortality rates for the other notifiable infectious diseases were on the whole somewhat lower than those usually experienced in the Rural District of Godstone, and compare favourably with those recorded in other areas. This was especially so as regards measles, which was greatly reduced in prevalence because of the exceptionally large number of children who were attacked by the disease in 1953 and thereby acquired immunity to it. The apparent discrepancy between the mortality attributed to pneumonia and the number of cases reported is explained by the fact that most of the deaths recorded under this heading were due to non-notifiable forms of the disease; in fact, only one of the notified cases had a fatal termination.

#### Non-Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

The rate of prevalence of the non-notifiable infectious diseases also was very much lower than usual. Apart from an outbreak of chicken-pox in February and March, which affected a total of 136 pupils at Smallfield, Limpsfield and Baldwins Hill Schools, and 35 cases of mumps at Limpsfield and Bletchingley Schools at about the same time, there was comparative freedom from non-notifiable infection. Three cases of chicken-pox and two of mumps were removed to hospital as they could not be satisfactorily isolated and treated in their own homes.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

Particulars of cases of tuberculosis which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year are set out in Table V, together with an analysis of the deaths in the area from the disease during the same period.

The numbers of new cases of respiratory and non-respiratory tuberculosis are equivalent to incidence rates of 0.52 and 0.11, respectively, both of which are somewhat lower than the corresponding rates for 1953 and fall well below the average for the preceding five years. Further reduction in prevalence may be expected to follow extension of the practice of B.C.G. vaccination and the recent prohibition of the sale locally of non-designated milk. It is noteworthy and of favourable significance that none of the cases became known through post-humous notification, nor from the Registrar's returns of deaths. One notification was subsequently withdrawn on a report from the Chest Physician that the person concerned was not, in his opinion, suffering from tuberculosis.

One notification of respiratory tuberculosis related to a pupil at a private school and it was, accordingly, thought to be advisable that all the pupils and the teaching staff at the school should be examined. The parents of the pupils readily consented to their children being skin tested and, if necessary, examined by X-ray to ascertain if they were infected. This was duly carried out and led to the discovery of another pupil with early signs of tuberculosis of the lungs, which had hitherto been unsuspected. The X-ray examination of the teaching staff was less easily arranged, particularly in the case of one teacher who objected on the grounds that it was inconsistent with his beliefs as a Christian Scientist. He was eventually prevailed upon to undergo examination, which disclosed that he was suffering from active and advanced tuberculosis of the lungs; he was immediately suspended from duty. In the course of further enquiry it was ascertained that the teacher concerned had previously had sanatorium treatment for respiratory



tuberculosis and had discharged himself against medical advice, and that his wife also had suffered from the disease. The X-ray reports on other members of the teaching staff were satisfactory.

In addition to the new cases notified for the first time, there were reports of sixteen previously-known cases of tuberculosis (15 respiratory and 1 non-respiratory) who had recently taken up residence in the Rural District. In many of these the disease is considered to be quiescent or arrested, but all are under the supervision of the staff of the Chest Clinic.

The mortality rate for tuberculosis of the lungs followed the same general trend as the incidence rate, being appreciably below the average for recent years. The relative numbers of deaths of males and females from this cause were precisely the same as in 1953 and fell roughly into the same age groups. Two of the deaths took place in hospital. No mortality was attributed to non-respiratory forms of tuberculosis.

At the end of the year there were 212 known cases of tuberculosis in the district, including 138 (76 males and 62 females) in which the lungs were affected, and 74 (34 males and 40 females) with tuberculosis of other organs. This is a decrease of 7 on the corresponding total for 1953, due to reduction in the number of non-respiratory cases. Twenty-eight cases were removed from the list during the year - three on death, twenty-four on complete recovery from the disease and one on being found, after full investigation, to be non-tuberculous.

No special action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952 (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade), nor under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.)



TABLE V

NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS, AND ALL DEATHS  
FROM THE DISEASE IN THE AREA DURING 1954,  
CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO AGE, SEX AND TYPE OF DISEASE.

Age periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15 years	2	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25 years	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35 years	2	3	1	-	-	1	-	-
35 - 45 years	3	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
45 - 55 years	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
55 - 65 years	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	12	6	4	-	2	1	-	-
Totals 1953	10	8	1	4	2	1	2	-

## VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

### Vaccination against Small-pox.

Vaccination against small-pox, is not at present undertaken at the County Council's Clinics in the area. Particulars of notifications of vaccinations performed by private medical practitioners during the year are as follows:-

	<u>0 - 1</u> <u>Year</u>	<u>1 - 5</u> <u>Years</u>	<u>5 - 15</u> <u>Years</u>	<u>Over 15</u> <u>Years</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Primary Vaccination</u>	153	159	20	9	341
<u>Re-vaccination</u>	-	5	40	127	172

The total number of primary vaccinations, and more particularly of infants under the age of twelve months, is appreciably higher than in the previous year. It is estimated that 32.9 per cent of the infants born in 1954 were successfully vaccinated against small-pox, as compared with 31.5 per cent in 1953 and 30.0 per cent in 1952. The increased acceptance of infant vaccination is admittedly not striking, but is, nevertheless, encouraging and is in large measure due to the attention given to the subject by the Health Visitors in the course of their routine domiciliary visiting of young children. The proportion of the infant population so protected, however, is still much too small to offer an effective barrier against rapid spread of the disease should it, unfortunately, be introduced into the district.

Most of the re-vaccinations were of persons who were required to produce a certificate of recent vaccination to enable them to travel abroad. Such certificates must be authenticated by the Medical Officer of Health of the district in which the person normally resides.

### Immunisation against Diphtheria.

Immunisation against diphtheria is available through general medical practitioners and at the County Council's Clinics in the area. The numbers of children artificially immunised during the year are as follows:

<u>0 - 1</u> <u>Year</u>	<u>1 - 5</u> <u>Years</u>	<u>5 - 15</u> <u>Years</u>	<u>Total</u>
49	302	59	410

In addition, reinforcing doses of diphtheria prophylactic were given to 206 persons, most of whom were school entrants who had completed a course of immunisation three or four years previously.

The numbers immunised in the various age groups are roughly the same as in 1953. It is estimated that close on 50.0 per cent of children under the age of five years and rather more than 84.0 per cent of those between the ages of five and fifteen years have been artificially immunised against diphtheria, either by private practitioners or at the County Council's Clinics. It is not usual to immunise infants under the age of four or five months, so that the number immunised in the 0 - 5 years age group represents rather more than 50 per cent of those eligible for treatment.

#### Vaccination against Whooping Cough.

The County Council's scheme for whooping cough vaccination is of fairly recent introduction and is directed mainly to infants under the age of one year. For the time being it is not proposed to press the general acceptance of artificial immunisation against whooping cough, but parents who so wish may have their children vaccinated by their private doctors, at fixed immunisation clinics or at infant welfare sessions at which diphtheria immunisation is at present undertaken. The numbers of children in different age groups who completed a course of inoculations during the year are as follows:-

	<u>Under 1</u> <u>Year</u>	<u>1 - 2</u> <u>years</u>	<u>2 - 3</u> <u>years</u>	<u>3 - 4</u> <u>years</u>	<u>4 - 5</u> <u>years</u>	<u>5 - 15</u> <u>years</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Immunised</u>	39	131	22	19	8	11	230
<u>Reinforcing</u> <u>Injectons</u>	--	---	--	--	1	4	5

The foregoing figures do not represent any substantial advance on those for 1953, but there is evidence that the scheme is gradually gaining in popularity. The immunisation so far undertaken is not sufficient to have any appreciable influence on the prevalence of whooping cough, although it will, no doubt, reduce the severity of attack and the frequency of complications.

### Measles Prophylaxis.

Immune serum is available through the Public Health Department for the total or partial immunisation of susceptible measles contacts. No request for serum was received during the year.

### B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis.

The County Council has made arrangements for the protective inoculation, by B.C.G. vaccine, of selected children from households in which there is an infectious case of tuberculosis. This work is undertaken mainly by the Chest Physicians, with occasional assistance from the Divisional Medical Staff.

Toward the end of the year this scheme was extended to include thirteen-year-old pupils at County Council schools. Subject to the consent of their parents, the pupils in this group are skin tested to ascertain if they have already had a primary tuberculous infection, and those giving a negative result are offered B.C.G. vaccination. Preliminary arrangements were made before the end of the year for the testing and vaccination of pupils attending senior schools in the Godstone Rural District.

### Protection against other Diseases.

Prophylactic inoculation against other infectious diseases, such as enteric fever, cholera, yellow fever, etc., is necessary in the case of persons proposing to visit foreign countries where these diseases are endemic, and is usually undertaken at approved centres. The International Certificate required in such cases must be authenticated by the Medical Officer of Health of the district in which the person resides.



## WATER SUPPLY.

With the exception of the Parish of Tatsfield, which obtains its supply mainly from the Metropolitan Water Board, the whole of the Rural District is supplied by the East Surrey Water Company. In parts of the Parish of Oxted, the Parish of Limpsfield and the parts of Tatsfield supplied by the Company, the water is derived from the lower greensand, and elsewhere from deep borings in the chalk; the water from both sources is chlorinated and de-chlorinated before distribution to consumers.

The supplies from the public water mains were adequate in quantity throughout the year. The quality, as revealed by chemical and bacteriological examination at regular intervals, was invariably reported to be satisfactory. No action was necessary in respect of any form of contamination.

Samples of the water before and after treatment are submitted twice weekly for bacteriological examination, under private arrangements made by the East Surrey Water Company. In addition, samples of the treated water are examined chemically and bacteriologically about forty times a year, under a rota system arranged by the Medical Officers of Health of the districts supplied by the Company; samples are taken in each district at stated times and copies of the Analyst's reports are circulated to all the districts concerned.

The estimated number of dwelling-houses in each parish supplied from the public water mains (direct to houses and by means of stand-pipes), wells and rain-water tanks are set out in Table VI. The population supplied under each heading is shown in brackets.

Supplies from rain-water tanks are confined to out-lying dwellings in the Parish of Tatsfield and not infrequently fail completely after prolonged periods of dry weather. In such an emergency, a 300-gallon tank is borrowed, free of charge, from the East Surrey Water Company and is used for the conveyance of water by local authority transport to replenish the drinking water supplies of the dwellings affected; this service was put into operation on eight occasions during the year. Additional supplies of water for drinking and other domestic purposes can usually be obtained from the Metropolitan Water Board, on payment of a small charge to cover transport costs.

TABLE VI

	DIRECT TO HOUSES	STAND PIPES	WELLS	RAIN WATER TANKS
Bletchingley	803 (3324)	12 (42)	9 (28)	
Burstow	687 (3087)		4 (14)	
Chelsham	291 (1396)			4 (15)
Crowhurst	90 (326)			
Felbridge	445 (1449)	1 (3)	4 (12)	
Godstone	1119 (4427)	12 (36)	7 (16)	
Horne	240 (591)			
Limpsfield	1108 (3693)		2 (3)	
Lingfield	1865 (6197)			
Nutfield	580 (2010)	17 (33)		
Oxted	1713 (5590)			
Tandridge	217 (660)			
Tatsfield	296 (760)	3 (9)		68 (230)
Titsey	44 (119)		2 (unoccupied)	
<u>TOTALS</u>	9498 (33629)	45 (123)	28 (73)	72 (245)

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

During 1954 the main sewer was extended to the following districts:

Kings Cross Lane, South Nutfield.  
 Greenhurst, Oxted. (phase 4)  
 Quarry Farm Estate, Godstone. (phase 3)  
 Lagham Park Estate, South Godstone.  
 Hickmans Close, Godstone.  
 Ivy Mill Lane, Godstone.

The total number of houses connected thereto was 81.

TABLE VII  
CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Address of Clinic.	Welfare Centre.	Ante-Natal.	Dental.	Eye.	Minor Ailments.	Remedial Exercises.	Speech Therapy.
<u>BLETCHINGLEY</u> Church Room.	Thursday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>BLINDLEY HEATH</u> Farman Institute	Friday p.m. (2nd & 4th)	-	-	-	Friday p.m. (2nd & 4th)	-	-
<u>DORMANSLAND</u> Baptist Chapel	Monday p.m. (2nd & 4th)	-	-	-	Monday p.m. (2nd & 4th)	-	-
<u>GODSTONE</u> Whyte Hart Barn	Wednesday p.m. (2nd & 4th)	Wednesday (2nd & 4th) 11 a.m.- 12 mid-day.	-	-	Wednesday (2nd & 4th) 9.30 to 11 a.m.	-	-
<u>HURST GREEN</u> St. Agatha's Hall	Monday p.m.	-	-	-	Monday p.m.	-	-
<u>LIMPSFIELD</u> Chart Hall	Thursday p.m. (2nd & 4th)	-	-	-	Thursday p.m. (2nd & 4th)	-	-
<u>LINGFIELD</u> Blenheim Road (Lingfield 43)	Tuesday p.m.	Wednesday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	Tuesday a.m. and p.m. Thursday a.m.	Friday p.m. (4th)	Tuesday a.m. (2nd & 4th)	-	By appoint- ment.
<u>NUTFIELD, South</u> Village Hall	Tuesday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-	-	Tuesday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-
<u>OXFORD</u> Congregational Hall, Station Road East. (Oxford 1164)	Tuesday p.m.	Monday a.m.	Thursday p.m. Friday a.m. and p.m.	Wednesday a.m. (1st & 3rd)	Monday a.m.	By appoint- ment.	-
<u>SMALLEFIELD</u> Church Hall	Thursday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-	-	Thursday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-
<u>TATSFIELD</u> Parish Hall	Wednesday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-	-	Wednesday p.m. (1st & 3rd)	-	-



SECTION II

(SANITARY INSPECTION)

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Nuisance Inspections	229
Re-inspections	159
Inspections under Housing Acts	114
Re-inspections	172
Drainage surveys	95
Visits to Slaughter House Premises	68
Visits to Slaughter Houses for Meat Inspection	651
Visits to Dairies and Cowsheds	191
Visits to Schools	72
Inspection of Food - number of visits	26
<u>Milk Samples (Farms)</u>	
(a) No. of samples passed biological examination	112
(b) " " " failed " "	Nil
Total number of farm milk samples taken	112
<u>Milk Samples (Dairies)</u>	
(a) No. of samples satisfied Meth.Blue and Phosphatase exam.	97
(b) " " " failed " " " " "	10
Total number of dairy milk samples taken	107
<u>Milk Samples (Schools)</u>	
(a) No. of samples satisfied Meth.Blue and Phosphatase exam.	63
(b) " " " failed " " " " "	3
(c) " " " passed biological examination	3
(d) " " " failed " "	Nil
Total number of school milk samples taken	69
Ice Cream Samples taken	6
Inspection of ice cream premises	9
Inspections of Food Premises	106
Inspections of Factories and Workshops	54
Fireguards Act Inspections	8
Inspections of Tents, Vans etc.	96
Inspections under Petroleum Acts and Regulations	47
Drains Water tested	43
Inspection of drainage work in progress	71
Notices served:-	
(a) Informal	201
(b) Statutory	8
Complaints investigated	154
Infectious disease enquiries	66
Inspection of refuse tips	34
Samples of drinking water submitted for Bacterial and/or Chemical Analysis.	33
Miscellaneous inspections	72
Number of Cesspools cleansed	1911
Number of loads removed from cesspools	2985
Disinfection of premises	25
Disinfestation of premises	121
Premises inspected for rat or mice infestation	1459
Rat Infestations dealt with by Public Health Department	398
Inspections under Pet Animals Act	3



SUMMARY OF REPAIRS.

Carried out under the supervision of the Public Health Department  
during the year 1954 as a result of notices served.

TABLE VIII.

Internal repairs to plaster etc. carried out	34
Window arches repaired	3
Dampness in walls remedied	37
Dampness in solid floors remedied	4
Defective roofs repaired/renewed	24
Light and ventilation improved	2
Fire grates repaired/or renewed	6
Cooking ranges repaired/renewed	5
Sinks repaired or renewed	3
Sink waste pipes repaired	7
Eaves gutters repaired or renewed	22
Rain water downspouts repaired or renewed	18
Wooden floors repaired/renewed	8
Dry rot remedied	2
Staircases repaired	3
Defective chimneys repaired	16
Defective doors repaired or renewed	7
Walls and ceilings redecorated	7
Sashcords renewed	3
Window frames repaired or renewed	9
Glazing made good	2
Window putties renewed	2
Fire bricks fitted	2
Ventilated foodstores provided	1
Defective coppers repaired	3
Flushing cisterns to W.C.'s repaired or provided	4
Ventilation to W.C.'s	1
W.C. pans provided	3
W.C. structures repaired	2
Pail closet structures repaired or provided	2
W.C. seats provided	2
Water service pipes repaired	3
Water service improved	2
Water service laid on	2
Defective external walls repaired	15
Yard paving repaired or provided	1
Dustbins provided	6
Drains cleared or repaired	16
Connections to main sewer	3
Filter beds repaired or overhauled	7
Inspection covers provided or repaired	2
Overflow from cesspools cut off	6
Cesspools provided	4
F.A.I.'s provided	2
Gully surrounds repaired	8
Miscellaneous nuisances abated	32
Cesspools cleansed	28
Cesspools repaired	3
Construction of new solid floors	3
Provision of new bathroom	3
Septic tanks and filter beds provided	4
<u>Dairies and cowsheds.</u>	
Yards improved	1
Drainage improved	2
Accumulations of manure removed	3
<u>Piggeries.</u>	
New and improved drainage	1
New sties constructed	1
Accumulations of manure removed	2
Dung mixen provided	1
<u>Knackers Yard.</u>	
Cesspool cleansed	1
Accumulations of manure removed	1

SECTION III

H O U S I N G

TABLE IX

1. Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year 1954.

(i) (a)	Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	122
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	193
(ii) (a)	Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (i) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932).	61
(b)	Number of inspections made for this purpose	102
(iii)	Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	5
(iv)	Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	65

2. Remedy of defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or its Officers.	61
---	----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(i)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	6
(ii)	Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a)	by owners	4
(b)	by Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
(c)	outstanding (part completed)	2

B. Proceedings under Public Health Act:

(i)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	2
(ii)	Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a)	by owners	2
(b)	by Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act 1936.

- (i) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 3

Stratton Cottage, Godstone.  
1 and 2 Brickfield Cottages, South Nutfield.

- (ii) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders or as a result of Clearance Area procedure 7

1, 2 and 3 Chapel Cottages, Dormansland. (3)  
Ivy Cottages, Dormansland. (2)  
The Mint, Bletchingley. (2)

- (iii) Number of undertakings not to re-let 1

Keepers Cottage, Beech Farm, Chelsham. (1)

- (iv) Number of undertakings cancelled as a result of premises being made fit 1

Crane Cottage, Tatsfield.

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- (i) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. Nil

- (ii) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit. Nil

E. Abatement of Overcrowding.

Number of dwellinghouses found to be statutorily overcrowded as defined by Section 58, Housing Act, 1936 1

F. Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

- (i) Number of applications received for Certificates of Disrepair under Section 26 2

- (ii) Number of Certificates granted under (i) above 2

4. Houses erected by Private Enterprise.

Number of houses completed in 1954 139

SECTION IV.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

The factories on the Register of the  
Local Authority are as follows:-

TABLE K.

	<u>Mechanical Power</u>	<u>Non-Mechan- ical Power</u>	<u>Total</u>
Aeronautical Research	1	0	1
Aerial Photography	1	0	1
Agricultural Engineers	2	0	2
Aircraft Repairs (Engines)	1	0	1
Bakeries	11	4	15
Boot Repairing	1	1	2
Brass Finishing	1	0	1
Brick Making	4	0	4
Builders	0	11	11
Cabinet Makers	1	1	2
Chemical Manufacturers	1	0	1
Cigarette Factory	1	0	1
Cleaners and Dyers	1	0	1
Coach Builders	1	0	1
Concrete Products	1	0	1
Corn Provenders	2	0	2
Cycle Repairers	0	1	1
Dairies	1	0	1
Dressmaking	0	1	1
Electrical Engineering	1	2	3
Fire Extinguishers	1	0	1
Flour Milling	2	0	2
Fruit Storage	1	0	1
Fullers Earth Works	2	0	2
French Chalk Grinders	1	0	1
Gas Storage	3	0	3
Grass Drying	2	0	2
Jewellers	0	2	2
Joinery	6	2	8
Laundries	2	5	7
Leaded Lights	1	0	1
Light Engineering Works	7	0	7
Motor Repairers	21	5	26
Photographic	0	1	1
Plumbers	0	1	1
Printers	2	0	2
Projection Room	1	0	1
Radar Assembly	1	0	1
Rodent destruction	0	1	1
Saddlery	0	2	2
Sawmills	3	0	3
Stonemason	0	1	1
Smithies	1	0	1
Tile and Concrete	1	0	1
Tool Makers	1	0	1
Tailoring	1	4	5
Upholstery	1	0	1
Wax Modelling	1	0	1
Wheelwrights	1	0	1
Woodcrafts	2	0	2
<hr/>			
	97	45	142
<hr/>			



The following Table indicating the work carried out during the year 1954 in connection with the inspection of Factories, is submitted in accordance with Section 128 of the Act:-

INSPECTIONS.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspection	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	45	18	5	Nil
2. Factories not included in (1), to which Section 7 applies (a) subject to the Local Authorities (Transfer of Enforcement Order 1938) (b) Others.	97	36	Nil	Nil
3. Other premises under the Act (excluding out-workers' premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	142	54	5	Nil

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	Nil	1	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	Nil	1	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	Nil	2	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences (not including offences relating to Outwork)	1	1	Nil	1	Nil
TOTAL	5	5	Nil	5	Nil

OUTWORK (SECTION 110 and 111)

In the course of the year, six lists of outworkers were received, and these referred to thirteen private premises situated within the Godstope Rural District. Routine inspections were made and nothing was found which called for any action under the Factories Act. The following work is carried out in these premises.

Preparation and manufacture of lamp shades ... 10.

Work on wearing apparel ... .. 3.

FIRE PRECAUTIONS (SECTION 34)

No new Certificates as to the adequacy of means of escape in case of fire were granted during the year. Two new factories however which have not yet been completed will in due course require to satisfy the conditions laid down, and applications for Certificates will be made to the Council in due course.

Other factories in the District which were visited during the course of the year were also inspected in regard to maintaining and keeping their means of escape in proper order and no action was necessary in this connection.

## REFUSE COLLECTION.

The continued increase in the number of occupied premises within the Godstone Rural District has of course resulted in an increase in the amount of refuse to be collected and disposed of. In the course of the year some 324 additional houses and flats have been erected and occupied. There are also of course a number of large houses which have been converted either into flats or into two or more separate dwellings, and this has increased the number of dustbins to be emptied.

A certain amount of difficulty has been experienced in recruiting staff for the work, but on the whole we have managed to replace any shortages in a reasonable time, and although there are occasional periods when through illness or other matters beyond control, the collection of refuse is behind schedule, on the whole the service is maintained reasonably well considering the scattered nature of the rural area.

Vehicle breakdowns did occur but these were mostly of a minor nature and no serious mishap occurred during the year.

The dustbin contents have indicated that the amount of waste paper being saved for salvage collection is limited, and apart altogether from the loss to industry of this valuable waste material, there is of course the increased risk at the refuse tip of fires, and the unsightliness which is caused at times by paper being blown about in high wind.

In 1953 the amount of salvage waste paper acceptable by the Paper Mills was curtailed owing to certain conditions which arose in world markets, and we were asked to reduce the tonnage by a third per month. Since that time the collection of salvage paper has not really recovered to its normal amount. It is thought that this is due to householders losing interest, and also to the fear that a similar condition might arise when waste paper salvage would again be curtailed. The Mills however at the moment have assured local authorities that they can accept any quantity for repulping.

Our refuse disposal is carried out at Taylors Hill Sandpit by controlled tipping, and the bulk of this work is done by a Chaseside

Mechanical Spreader and Shovel which has given excellent service. The consolidation of the tip is good and the access for the refuse lorries for tipping purposes has been maintained by this vehicle in a very reasonable condition throughout the year.

One of the main difficulties at the tip however is the attraction it has for children and youths at weekends when a fair amount of damage is often done by raking off the covering material from the face of the tip, by breaking bottles and by generally doing damage to sheds and any plant which may be exposed. This in itself is bad enough, but occasionally through sheer hooliganism, fires are started, and it is only the fact that the tip is well consolidated that prevents a serious conflagration.

The amount of waste paper collected, baled and sent to the Mills during the year was 102 tons. Attached is a Chart showing the collection which has been made month by month.

#### PET SHOPS ACT, 1951.

There are three premises licensed under the provisions of this Act. No adverse conditions were found at any of these premises. All three premises are mainly concerned with caged birds and are run in a very excellent way.

#### FIREGUARDS ACT, 1952.

During the course of the year, eight visits were made for the purposes of checking up heating appliances to make sure that they complied with the Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Regulations, 1953.

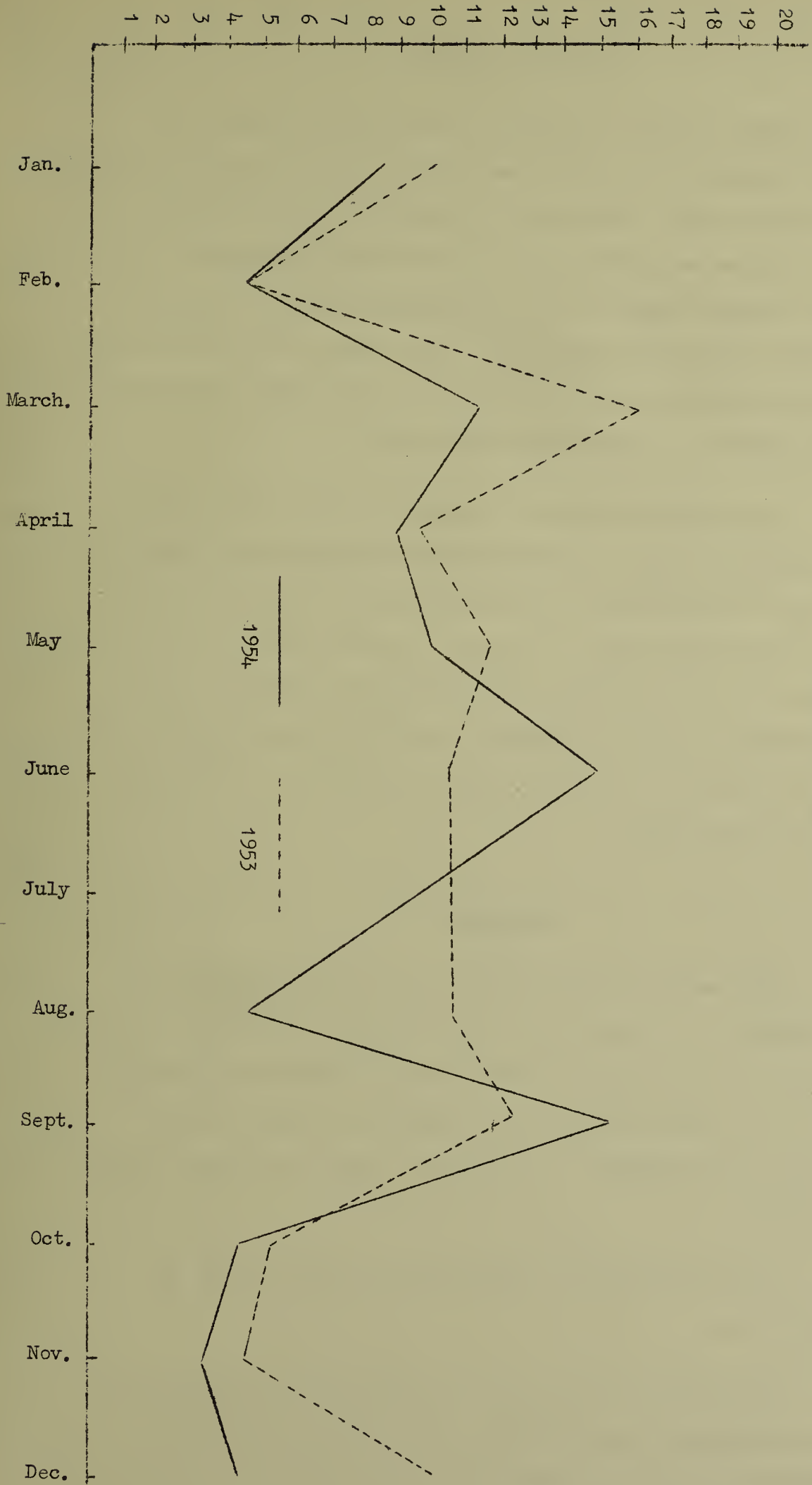
In one case, one well-known make of fire of the paraffin vapour type was found to be inadequately guarded, although purporting to comply with the new Regulations, and modifications were later carried out by the manufacturers and the difficulty overcome.

Old stock was tested, particularly small electric radiator type of fires, and these all failed to meet the requirements, and improved guards were later supplied which enabled these fires to be offered for sale.



Tons.

SALVAGE COLLECTION.



### CESSPOOL CLEANSING.

During the year, the number of applications received for cesspool cleansing by the Public Health Department again showed an increase on the previous year. The number of cesspools cleansed amounted to 1,911, and this represented 2,985 loads, or 2,238,750 gallons removed. Our two cesspool cleansing vehicles could not cope with the sudden influx of applications during November/December, and a private Contractor's vehicle was hired to help deal with the situation. The attached chart shows the monthly applications received and loads removed.

The question of disposal of cesspool contents after removal was carefully considered by the Public Health Committee, and endeavours were made to try and arrange for distribution over farm land, but this had to be ruled out for two main reasons - firstly, that the wet weather precluded access to the farms by the vehicles, and secondly, that the wide variations in the constitution of cesspool contents presented some doubts in the minds of farmers as to the desirability of putting this liquid on to their land.

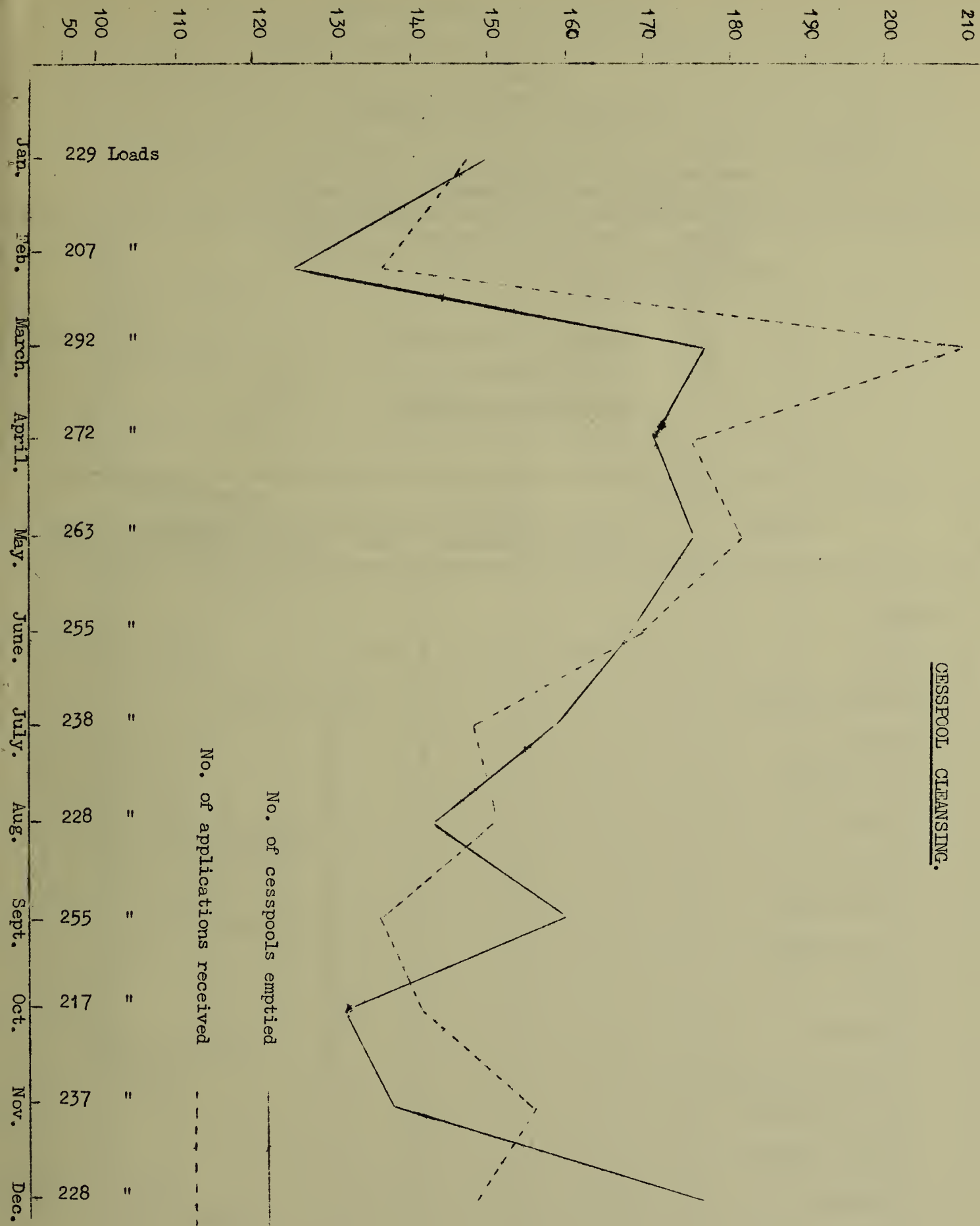
### MORTUARIES.

Application was made during the year for the installation of a telephone. At present all messages for the Coroner's Officer have to be taken to the mortuary by hand from the Council Offices, and quite often he has to leave a post mortem examination in order to speak personally on the telephone in the office. This is of course a great inconvenience.

The Mortuary was well maintained and looked after by the Mortuary Keeper.

The number of bodies taken into the Mortuary during 1954 was 34 from the Godstone Rural District, and 27 from the Caterham and Warlingham Urban District making a total of 61 bodies.

CESSPOOL CLEANSING.



SECTION V.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938-1950.

The Surrey County Council is the Authority responsible for the sampling of foodstuffs, and the following list is a record of the samples and action taken within the Godstone Rural District. In addition a return of the samples submitted and analysed throughout the County for 1954 is appended.

SAMPLES AND ACTION TAKEN  
WITHIN THE  
GODSTONE RURAL DISTRICT.

Articles	Analysed			Adulterated or Irregular		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
<u>FOOD:</u>						
Milk	106	5	111	5	1	6
Almonds, ground	1	-	1			
Butter	1	-	1			
Cake mixture	1	-	1			
Cheese	1	-	1			
Chocolate Roll	1	1	2	1	-	1
Confectionery	4	-	4			
Food beverage	1	-	1			
Honey	1	-	1			
Margarine	1	-	1			
Marmalade, diabetic	-	1	1			
Meat, preserved	1	-	1			
Onions, pickled	1	-	1			
Sausages	5	-	5			
Whisky	1	-	1			
Totals	126	7	133	6	1	7



Return of Samples analysed during Year 1954.

Articles	Samples			Adulterated or Irregular		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
<u>FOOD:</u>						
Milk	1,112	94	1,206	50 <sup>*</sup>	3	53
Almonds, ground	2	1	3			
Apples	-	2	2			
Apricots, dried	1	5	6	-	1	1
Baking powder	-	2	2			
Beans, runner, tinned	-	1	1			
Beer	6	-	6			
Blackcurrant juice	-	1	1			
Bread	1	1	2			
Butter	3	4	7			
Cake mixture	1	-	1			
Cheese	1	-	1			
Cheese spread	-	1	1			
Chocolate flavour drink	1	-	1	1	-	1
Chocolate Roll	1	1	2	1	-	1
Cider, non-alcoholic	-	1	1			
Coffee	-	1	1			
Coffee powder	-	1	1			
Coffee Sugar	1	-	1			
Confectionery	6	2	8			
Cooking and Rape Seed Oils	2	-	2	1	-	1
Cream	1	1	2			
Cream, double	2	-	2			
Currants	1	-	1			
Dried Milk	-	2	2			
Egg Sandwich	1	-	1			
Fish paste	-	2	2			
Flavouring, peppermint	1	-	1			
Flavouring, synthetic	1	-	1			
Flour	-	2	2			
Food beverage	1	-	1			
Fruit, preserved	-	11	11	-	1	1
Gelatine	-	1	1			
Gin	1	-	1			
Glucose	1	-	1			
Ham	1	1	2			
Honey	1	1	2			
Horseradish sauce	1	-	1			
Ice-Cream	10	2	12			
Iced Lolly	-	6	6			
Jam	3	4	7			
Jelly	1	-	1			
Lard	4	-	4			
Lemon juice	-	1	1			
Margarine	4	5	9	1	1	2
Marmalade, diabetic	-	1	1			
Mayonnaise	-	1	1			
Meat, preserved	2	1	3			
Meat, sliced	-	1	1			
Mincemeat	-	1	1			
Mineral Water	-	1	1			
Carried forward	1,175	163	1,338	54	6	60

\* Legal proceedings were instituted and a conviction obtained against a dairy farmer for selling 3 samples of milk containing added water.

Articles	Samples			Adulterated or Irregular		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
Brought forward	1,175	163	1,338	54	6	60
<u>FOOD: (continued)</u>						
Mustard	-	1	1			
Non-brewed Condiment	1	-	1			
Onions, pickled	1	-	1			
Orange juice	2	-	2			
Oranges	-	5	5			
Peaches, dried	-	2	2			
Pepper	-	2	2			
Pickle	1	-	1			
Pineapple Curd	-	1	1			
Plums, Victoria	1	-	1	1	-	1
Protein Food	-	1	1			
Raisins	-	1	1			
Raspberries, tinned	-	1	1			
Rhubarb, tinned	-	1	1			
Rum	1	1	2			
Salad Cream	-	1	1			
Sausage meat	2	-	2			
Sausages	32	10	42	4	2	6
Soft Drinks	10	8	18	-	2	2
Soup	1	-	1			
Suet	4	1	5	1	-	1
Sugar	2	-	2	1	-	1
Sultanas	-	1	1			
Tangerines	-	1	1			
Tea	1	4	5			
Tomato juice	-	2	2			
Vanilla essence	-	1	1			
Vinegar	5	1	6	4	-	4
Whisky	30	1	31			
Wine	1	2	3			
<u>DRUGS:</u>						
Aluminium Hydroxide Gel.B.P.C.	-	1	1			
Aspirin tablets	1	3	4	1	-	1
Camphorated Oil	-	1	1			
Chemical Food B.P.	-	1	1	-	1	1
Cod Liver Oil Emulsion	-	1	1			
Cough Syrup	1	-	1	1	-	1
Embrocation	-	1	1			
Ephedrine Hydrochloride tablets	-	2	2			
Eye Lotion	-	1	1			
Glycerine	-	1	1			
Glycerine of Thymol	-	1	1			
Lung Balsam	1	1	2			
Malt Extract with Cod Liver Oil	-	3	3			
Mineral oil, Agar-Agar	-	1	1			
Soap Liniment	-	1	1			
Totals	1,273	231	1,504	67	11	78

## SECTION VI

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES.

#### (a) MILK SUPPLY.

On the 31st December, 1954, there were 10 dairy premises and 17 milk distributors registered with the Local Authority. Of these, 8 are registered in other districts and carry out deliveries of milk to parishes within the Godstone Rural District. All of these 8 distributors hold Supplementary Licences to sell graded milks.

Licensed by the Surrey County Council are three premises at which the pasteurisation of milk is carried out. These premises are distributed as follows:

One at Bletchingley.

One at Outwood.

One at Dormansland.

Later in the year, the pasteurising establishment at Bletchingley closed down for a complete overhaul of the plant and machinery. It is not yet in operation.

The milk samples which have been taken during the year and the results which have been obtained are given in Section II of this report. Sampling of raw milk supplies is carried out at producers' premises for biological examination. 115 samples were taken and all were satisfactory, being negative for tubercle bacilli.

On the 1st October, 1954 the Godstone Rural District was declared to be a designated area for the purposes of milk supplies, and this meant that as from the date of designation all milk supplies should be either Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised or Sterilised. This meant the end of all supplies to the public of raw undesignated milk.

As a result of this, three dairymen who had been previously supplying ungraded raw milk gave up their businesses.

On the 30th June, the Clinical Research Association ceased to accept milk samples for examination, the laboratory having closed down and alternative arrangements had to be made. Dr. Jameson of the Public

Health Laboratory, Brighton, agreed to accept milk samples and other pathological specimens for examination from the Rural District of Godstone, and this arrangement is now in operation.

(b) SHOPS ACT, 1934, and FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Food premises situated within the Rural District of Godstone number 220 and comprise the following trades:

Grocers and Provision Merchants	...	35
Butchers	... ..	22
General Stores	... ..	27
Bakers and Confectioners	... ..	13
Fishmongers	... ..	8
Confectioners	... ..	12
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	... ..	11
Dairies	... ..	8
Hotels (Residential)	... ..	8
Restaurants	... ..	13
Cafes and Snack Bars	... ..	17
Public Houses	... ..	46

The number of premises registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, are as follows:

Registered ice cream premises.	... ..	87
Premises in which food is prepared..		22

During the course of the year, 106 visits of inspection were made to food premises, and an additional 9 inspections were made to premises where the only foodstuff handled is ice cream.

The following is a table of the work which has been carried out at food premises as a result of these inspections. The improvement of food premises is a continual process of visits and advice, and there is of course much more to be done before a state of perfection is reached.

Open roof boarded in.	4
Hand washing facilities provided, including the provision of sinks with hot and cold water.	8
Food shops, store rooms, food preparation rooms cleansed and redecorated (in terms of premises)	14



Equipment cleansed or renewed.	3
Alternative facilities for employee's clothing provided.	2
Protective covers and display cabinets provided.	1
Separate sanitary accommodation provided.	1
Sanitary accommodation cleansed.	2
Alterations to sanitary accommodation.	1
Bacon and fats storage facilities provided.	1

The Food Handling Byelaws which were adopted by the Godstone Rural District Council and which were made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, have in the main been observed by the food traders.

### (c) FOOD INSPECTION.

In the course of the year, the following foodstuffs were examined and found to be unfit for human consumption.

Meat	(a) 95½ lbs. Beef.
	(b) 48 lbs. Pork.
	(c) 19½ lbs. Offals.
Fish	(a) 102 lbs.
	(b) 2 lobsters.
Tinned goods	(a) 45 lbs. Corned beef
	(b) 7½ lbs. Stewed steak
	(c) 8 tins condensed milk
	(d) 7 lbs. Blackcurrants
	(e) 2 lbs. Apricots
	(f) 7 lbs. Apricot Pulp
	(g) 3 tins Fruit
	(h) 4 tins Peas
	(i) 1 tin Beans
	(j) 1 tin Vegetable salad
	(k) 1 tin Soup
	(l) 10 tins Minced meat loaf
	(m) 1 tin Pilchards
	(n) 2 tins Cherries in syrup
	(o) 1 tin Sliced peaches
	(p) 1 tin Raspberry jam
	(q) 1 tin Kidneys
Dry goods	(a) 60 lbs. Seedless raisins
	(b) 4 lbs. 1 oz. Cheese trimmings
	(c) 18 boxes of Dates

The disposal of these condemned foodstuffs was either release to reliable people for animal feeding purposes, or where this was not possible, destruction was carried out. In the case of the meat, this was vegetable dyed and also released for animal feeding purposes.

#### ICE CREAM

On the register of the number of premises where ice cream is sold we have 87. Most of these sell pre-wrapped ice cream which is supplied by well-known manufacturers.

We have one establishment only where registration for the manufacture of ice cream for sale at his own premises is carried out, but the amount of ice cream which is made is very limited. These premises are equipped with modern plant.

Six samples of ice cream were sent to the laboratory for analysis. Of these, four were in Grade I and one in Grade II and one was in Grade IV. Further investigation was of course made in the last mentioned case, and it was found that the ice cream was made up from a Cold Mix and the method of its manufacture was not considered to be entirely satisfactory. As a result of this, the manufacture of ice cream has been suspended indefinitely.

#### SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

In accordance with Ministry of Food Circular in which local authorities were requested to prepare for the decontrol of meat and the return of private slaughtering on 4th July, 1954, all slaughterhouses were inspected and a detailed schedule of repairs was prepared in each case.

All the slaughterhouses are small and only suitable in the main for use in conjunction with one or two butchers shops. Bearing in mind the use to which the premises would be put, and the payment of compensation if centralised slaughtering returned, together with the very uncertain duration of the "interim period", a high standard in reconditioning these premises was adopted but without too much expense to the butchers by not insisting on separate hanging and cooling rooms.

As will be seen from the attached list of repairs carried out, considerable improvements have been made to these old slaughterhouses.

Open roofs boarded in	7
Walls - rendering renewed	4
repaired and cleansed	3
Floors - renewed	6
repaired	1
Internal surfaces of door panels covered with metal	7
Improved natural lighting provided	5
Improved artificial lighting provided	6
Sinks with hot water provided	5
Drain gullies removed from interior of slaughterhouses	1
Latticed openings replaced by proper windows	5
Hanging facilities provided	2
Additional lairage provided to increase space in slaughterhouse.	4
New cesspool provided	1

Of the 16 slaughterhouses in the area the Council decided to grant licences to 9 butchers. The remainder were unwilling to spend money on reconditioning their premises. Of the nine, seven have carried out the repairs and alterations, and in most cases these were completed by 4th July, 1954. One butcher decided that to construct a new building was more satisfactory than to recondition his existing slaughterhouse. This proposal is awaiting the approval of the Minister of Food. The remaining butcher has not yet carried out the necessary works to his premises.

One butcher started slaughtering on a large scale for businesses in neighbouring districts, but this was stopped by the Council on the grounds that the premises were inadequate to handle such large quantities and that the premises were situated in a residential area.

One butcher enlarged his premises to provide a hanging room and he is able to slaughter for several other butchers in the area.

The task of meat inspection has been carried out by the Chief and Deputy Sanitary Inspectors, and although considerable travelling and weekend and evening work has been necessary, all meat has been inspected.

Co-operation with Veterinary Surgeons in the district has been very cordial at all times, and cases of congenital tuberculosis in calves and generalised tuberculosis in cattle have been reported to the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The Slaughter of Animals (Amendment) Act, 1954, came into operation on 1st October, 1954. The main amendments of this Act deal with the slaughter of horses. There is one knackers yard in the area, and the owner has been advised of the implications of the new Act. The amendments to the licensing of slaughtermen will be incorporated when the new licences are issued for 1955. There are 27 licensed slaughtermen operating within the Godstone Rural District.

In course of inspection of meat, all meat found unfit for human consumption is dyed green by the inspectors and in the majority of cases, removal is carried out by soap manufacturers.

SUMMARY OF SLAUGHTERING AND MEAT INSPECTION CARRIED OUT  
SINCE THE RE-OPENING OF PRIVATE SLAUGHTERHOUSES ON THE  
4TH JULY, 1954.

	Cattle.		Calves.	Pigs.	Sheep.	Goats.
	Cows.	Bullocks and Heifers.				
Number slaughtered	28	303	363	1106	273	8
Number inspected	28	303	363	1106	273	8
<u>TUBERCULOSIS.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	-	1	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	5	23	-	14	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	21.4	7.5	.28	1.26	-	-



ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS.

	Cattle.		Calves.	Pigs.	Sheep.	Goats.
	Cows.	Bullocks and Heifers.				
Whole carcasses condemned	1	-	-	2	1	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	60	2	139	17	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	10.7	19.8	.56	13.5	6.5	-
<u>CONDEMNATIONS.</u>						
<u>TUBERCULOSIS.</u>						
Entire carcass and organs	1	-	1	-	-	-
Forequarters	-	10	-	-	-	-
Heads and tongues	2	11	-	16	-	-
Lungs	5	13	-	1	-	-
Livers	2	4	-	1	-	-
Miscellaneous	1	7	-	2	-	-

OTHER DISEASED CONDITIONS.

CATTLE.

1 whole carcass and organs	Johnes disease with emaciation and oedema.
4 sets of lungs	abscesses
2 parts of lungs	do.
2 sets of lungs	pleurisy
1 set of lungs and pleura	do.
1 part lungs	do.
1 set of lungs	cystic
5 livers	distomatosis
12 part livers	do.
3 livers	abscesses.
13 part livers	do.
1 liver	cirrhosis.
9 part livers	do.
1 liver	peritonitis.
1 tongue	actinomycosis.
1 mesentery	peritonitis.
1 heart	pericarditis
2 spleen	peritonitis

OTHER DISEASED CONDITIONS (Cont)CATTLE (Cont)

1 pleura and peritoneum	pleurisy and peritonitis
1 udder	mastitis
1 diaphragm	abscesses

CALVES.

1 liver	abscesses
---------	-----------

SHEEP.

1 whole carcass and organs	putrefaction
1 part hind leg	dog injuries
1 head	" "
2 legs	" "
Parts of 2 forequarters	" "
4 sets lungs	strongyli refescens
1 part liver	distomatosis
1 part liver	cysts
1 liver	echinococcus cysts

PIGS.

2 parts of forequarter	contaminated with bile.
1 part forequarter	adhesion
1 leg	bruising
1 part forequarter	do.
1 " hindquarter	bad setting
2 hindquarters	gangrene
2 parts forequarters	do.
2 hind legs	do.
2 legs	injury and abscesses
4 legs	multiple injuries
1 head	do.
3 heads and tongues	malignant growth
1 pluck	do.
1 head	abscess
1 hind foot	do.
32 sets lungs	pneumonia
12 sets lungs	pleurisy
1 set lung	emphesema
15 livers	cystic
1 parts of livers	do.
2 livers	congestion
2 livers	peritonitis
1 part of liver	abscess
2 liver	fatty degeneration
1 part of liver	do.
3 sets kidneys	hydronephrosis
2 sets kidneys	degeneration
2 hearts	pericarditis
1 mesentery	peritonitis

## SECTION VII.

### THE PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The year's work on the destruction of rats and mice is given in Table XI, and it will be seen that there is an increase in the number of premises dealt with, but the number of major infestations shows an increase, particularly in private dwellinghouses. The reason for this is that the estimation of what constitutes a major infestation has been very much modified, and now it is considered that twelve or more rats would constitute such an infestation, whereas before it was always considered that 20 to 30 would constitute a major infestation.

It is also encouraging to note that the number of reservoir infestations which existed in the early days of the Pests Act have been practically eliminated, and the situation is generally very much better than it has ever been before, and although it could be argued that if continual progress could be maintained, the total elimination of the rat would ultimately follow, unfortunately however, there is a certain limit beyond which at the present stage of poisoning technique, it is not possible to go, and it therefore means that continual vigilance must be maintained in order to keep the rat population at its present reduced level.

The Local Authority's sewers were all tested during the course of the year, and two small infestations were found at Godstone and Lingfield, both of which were dealt with.

The Sewage Disposal Works and the Refuse Tip are visited at regular intervals by the Rodent Operator, and any necessary action is taken, but generally speaking the amount of infestation at the Sewage Works is quite small. In regard to the Refuse Tip, we have not had any infestation worthy of the name for a very long period.

All School Canteens and kitchens are visited annually, and measures are taken to prevent infestation with steam flies, cockroaches and other insects. This is a routine measure which the Surrey County Council have adopted at this type of premises, and in addition we also undertake on their behalf similar work at institutions and convalescent homes.

The Smallfield Hospital which forms part of the Redhill Group has a regular visit every month in order to keep observation on their kitchens for the purpose of cockroach control, and also from time to time measures are taken to control any rat or mice infestation which may have occurred.



TABLE XI

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.  
REPORT FOR 12 MONTHS ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1955.

NAME OF LOCAL AUTHORITY: GODSTONE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL. (COUNTY) SURREY.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Non-Agricultural				(5) Agri- cultural
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	(3) All Other (including Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1) (2) and (3)	
I. Number of properties in Local Authority's District (Notes 1 and 2)	11	9091	1011	10,113	483
II. Number of properties inspect- ed as a result of:					
(a) Notification	3	358	28	389	1
(b) Survey under the Act	8	14	11	33	3
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	--	228	316	544	191
III. Total inspections carried out - including reinspections. (To be completed only if figures are readily available)	--	--	--	--	--
IV. Number of properties inspect- ed (in Sect. II) which were found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats (Major	4	41	3	48	1
Minor	6	227	20	253	NIL
(b) Mice (Major	NIL	12	3	15	NIL
Minor	1	70	9	80	NIL
V. Number of infested properties (in Sec. IV) treated by the L.A. (Figures should NOT exceed those given at Sect. IV)	11	350	35	396	1
VI. Total treatments carried out - including retreatments (To be completed only if figures are readily available)	--	--	--	--	--
VII. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act:					
(a) Treatment	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
(b) Structural Work, (i.e. Proofing)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
VIII. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sec. 4 of the Act.	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
IX. Legal Proceedings.	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
X. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out.	NIL	9	NIL	9	NIL

NOTE 1. - With the exception of agricultural properties, a property means one which is entered separately in the Valuation Roll for the area.

NOTE 2. - (i) Premises used by the L.A. for the purposes of trade should be entered in Col. (3).

(ii) Sewers should not be included.

(iii) Combined dwelling and business premises, where occupied by the same person, should be regarded as business premises and should be entered in Col. (3). Where the dwelling and business parts of the premises are in separate occupation, separate entries should be made in Cols. (2) and (3).

NOTE 3. - For the purpose of completing Sections II, IV and V, each property should be entered once only in respect of inspections, infestations or treatments.





